

COAST GUARD RESERVIST

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NOW HEAR THIS



THE ADMIRAL'S CORNER

After two years of turbulence, during which the Coast Guard Reserve has been under budget attack, I am pleased to report that "The Coast Guard Reserve is alive and well, thank you." With the current economic paces through which the country is being put at this time, it would be presumptuous for anyone to predict future budget plans and ceilings. But in my opinion it is a reasonable assumption that in view of the intent of the Congress and the needs of the nation, no further substantive question on whether or not there is to be a Coast Guard Selected Reserve will be raised.

This leaves the field clear for us to address the more important and interesting question, "Where do we go from here?" Without intending to document every future planning problem, I can note several very key points.

During the past two years, Congressional interests have raised questions on the contribution of the Coast Guard Reserve in support of the peacetime, regular Coast Guard. This new direction has been made known to all hands, and is the basis for significant and new programs being developed now. We have a mandate to increase our support in a wide variety of peacetime missions, not giving up the mobilization plans but supplementing them in those areas where operational augmentation of regular forces collaterally provides field training and experience for the Reservist. This new approach leads to the challenge of attracting young men to join the Coast Guard Reserve, both as an option for military service, and as a part time career for the veteran who has completed his military obligation. We have a very attractive multiple mission; readiness for mobilization when the country needs us, coupled with active support of the humanitarian tasks performed by the

regular service during peacetime.

The Congress currently authorizes a Selected Reserve of 15,000. We must build toward that goal. And we must do so with the dollars provided us which, while ample to provide a static level of 12,000 if we are economically efficient, neither provides any cushion for misapplication nor an opportunity to build our strength to 15,000. However, I intend to search out means whereby we can gradually build beyond the 12,000 level. Our goal for the end of FY 72 therefore is 13,000.

Given the three ingredients of mission, men, and money, what new programs might evolve? I think we have some interesting innovations that will be felt by every Coast Guard Reservist. Some of these ideas are still embryonic, need much staff work, and may not survive the whole birth cycle, but I'd like to share them with you as goals toward which we are earnestly working at this time. Your help is needed, both to flesh out the ideas to fully staged plans, and to implement them when that time is reached.

I am, as I hope is clear to each Reservist who reads this, inviting your participation through feedback to me, through your normal chain of command, or even directly should you feel more inclined that way. Don't keep your ideas to yourself, or ask the walls of your room, "Why don't THEY . . ." Ask us why don't we do what you think should be done; give us a chance to include YOUR ideas in our projections of the future of the Coast Guard Reserve.

With that preliminary statement and invitation to respond, let me share with you some of the concepts and plans which are actively under consideration at Head-

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-You have by now noticed that The Reservist has changed. This new system of printing will eliminate about three weeks between the time the finished copy leaves Coast Guand Headquarters and the time the printed Reservist is mailed.

To help you put information received from the Reservist into the proper perspective, each issue will have a date on the last page. This is the date that the final copy left Headquarters. All information contained in that issue will be, to the best of our knowledge, accurate as of that date.

Editor

quarters and, in some cases, are already being placed into effect in the field.

A. Missions. There are three areas in which each Reservist should become proficient. There is the traditional, and still fundamental, mobilization task. Under restructuring, each of you should have a reasonably clear idea of your particular job in a national emergency situation.

We are now moving into the area of augmenting the regular Coast Guard in peacetime missions, where the special and considerable talents of Coast Guard Reservists ably fit, and where the Reservist can simultaneously benefit from the experience. So each Reservist may find himself focusing on some peacetime mission area as another sub-speciality, alongside his mobilization task. This might be search and rescue, COTP work, RCC, some engineering task, aids to navigation, boating safety, etc.

A new and significant area of general concern to the Coast Guard is the environmental quality program, specifically related to our waterways. A new Office of Marine Environment and Systems (referred to as the "W" office for the designated routing symbol) has been created at Headquarters to direct Coast Guard actions on water pollution. In this area, it is predictable that there will be needs for Reservists to help the regular service in times of pollution emergencies. Reservists have already made significant contributions in this regard. In order to be ready for this, every Reservist should become knowledgeable about oil pollution, (and pollution caused by other pollutants) prevention, detection and cleanup procedures. So equipped, the Reservist can respond professionally when needed.

Just what actions are being taken concerning these three mission areas?

(1) Legislation is being prepared for consideration by the Congress to give the Commandant authority to call up Reservists for domestic emergencies. This would significantly reinforce the mandate from the Congress for the Coast Guard Reserve to move toward a full, peacetime mission.

(2) Materials are being developed that, in time, will lead to new and advanced courses for ACDUTRA related to

water pollution, law enforcement, and related matters. This will expand and make more attractive the options for ACDUTRA at Yorktown, Alameda or other training centers.

(3) A major effort is being made to get Reservists out of the class-room and into the field, to develop experience, to become a competent and confident member of the Coast Guard manpower applied to peacetime tasks.

(4) Plans are being tested this summer which will enable Reservists to work with regular Coast Guard units for extended time periods during seasons when regular units are overloaded. The best example here is the lifeboat station which needs coxswains, engineman, seaman, cooks, etc., throughout the boating season.

B. Manpower- and this includes womenpower - is the key to success in our program. We must recruit, train, and retain the trained personnel, if we are to accomplish our triple mission of mobilization - augmentation - and strike force for water pollution. It is my opinion that our work is meaningful, worthy and challenging. But we must make this known, and every Reservist can help.

The first "help" that is needed is for each of us to work to translate the triple mission into reality, to achieve real use of Reservists at worthwhile work, to gain a sense of competence and confidence in "Reserve Power" that will sell our program to the regular Coast Guard. With this as a base, every Reservist can help recruit new members by passing the word to his contemporaries that we have something to offer. "Every Reservist get a Reservist."

It is often said that unit training, the one night per week or one weekend per month, is the weakest part of the training program. Excess administrative paper-work, repetitive and dull classes, inefficient use of time, tired and wornout themes related to mobilization, are representative complaints. Innovative ideas are needed on how to improve this situation. I don't feel that the unit drill program is a loss even if the quality of training seems poor, because the periodic meeting provides the framework for identification with the Coast Guard that is essential for creating and maintaining the feeling in each Reservist that "I am a part of the United States Coast Guard." We are all members of an Armed Force of the United States. It is appropriate to dramatize this regularly, and the unit drill provides this opportunity. But if we can improve the training function toward the triple missions we will be much ahead in achieving our goal of full utilization.

Whatever Headquarter's staff in the Office of Reserve might do, the improvement of the unit drill situation will rest with the members of each unit under the leadership of the unit Commanding Officer with guidance from your district commander. We at Headquarters can act as a clearing house and communications source, passing new ideas out as they become known to us. Here are some specific things we are considering, or are doing:

(1) Cut administrative paperwork drastically! Here is an area where recommendations from the field are most needed. (2) We have many "experts" in the Reserve, people who can contribute much as instructors. But their talents are typically confined to instructing within their own unit. An idea being explored is to have these kinds of people "float" among various units as visiting professors of a sort, presenting a series of lessons related to their special skills

(3) Increase the participation of ORTU personnel with regular forces to a goal of about 50% of unit drill time where proximity to a Regular unit will permit. This may mean reporting to an operating Coast Guard unit, or performing operational tasks at the regular unit meeting place. Many special staff tasks can be performed by Reserve personnel at the unit's drill hall; studies, development of plans, review of materials, etc.

(4) There must be a significant increase in the understanding of every Reservists as to the mission and goals of the Coast Guard Reserve, and the role of each Reservist. This can best be done at the unit level, by "rap sessions," and by other informal communications available to the Commanding Officer of the unit. There is no question but that our mission is sound and motivating, but unless each Reservist knows what it is, it is not likely to result in the espirit de corps and interest the program deserves.

(5) Significant recruiting efforts are being initiated. We need to recruit veterans because their special talents and experience are needed. After a long period of no recruiting, which has left units woefully short of seamen and firemen, we are well into the RL and RP programs. Every effort is being made to divert funds into the recruiting program so that we can increase the input of young men who represent the future of the Coast Guard Reserve. New recruit programs are being considered, aimed at the late high school student, at young men in our urban areas around seaports where they could work with local Coast Guard forces, and the SPAR program is being restudied. Details on these will have to await further staff work.

C. Money is primarily a function of the Congress, with some in-house ramifications. We have \$25.9 million for the current fiscal year, I July 1971 to 30 June 1972. This may be cut a bit with the President's economic game plan, but not so much that we cannot continue a progressive program. Savings will be sought in every activity. Our boat program will go forward modestly. The key problem is to translate money into people inputs and training in the most direct and efficient way.

Here's a pot pourri of ideas that are being considered beyond those already mentioned:

--Where geographically feasible assign ORTUPS to a specific Captain of the Port for operational work, and for training. The COTP would consider such units as "his," and assume responsibility for the readiness of each Reservist to perform.

--Assign our ships, while on training cruises, to operational missions.
UNIMAK has already participated in fisheries and lobster patrols off the east

coast and will continue to do so.

--A new Yorktown barracks is being sought in the FY 1973 budget... a needed addition to eliminate use of old and inadequate barracks.

--Incorporate some Reserve training in the new training facility at Petaluma, California.

--Tighten up the definition of satisfactory participation, and attendance standards to get better attendance and a higher quality of participation by all Reservists.

--Solve the problem of stagnation in certain rates where promotion is stalled. This involves changes in the rate structure to permit more people at higher ratings, and it may require some easing of the overload at higher ratings through continuation boards to make room for younger men to move up to E-7 and higher levels.

--Improve our publication, "The Reservist," to get it out more quickly, and include more information of interest to the young Reservist.

--Publish a Reserve Bulletin as a means of "getting the word out" to the Districts and to the COs of units, faster and more thoroughly.

--Initiate a ROC program - Reserve Officer Candidates, who would complete OCS, have a short period of duty with regular forces, and then take up participation with an ORTU for continuation of his training.

--Update CG 296, the Reserve Administration Manual, and keep it current through more frequent amendments.

--Develop the OPERATIONAL AUGMENTA-TION TRAINING program...get more Reservists working at regular units, both during unit drill time and for longer periods when the Reservist is available and the regular forces need help.

This by no means exhausts all the things being considered, studied, dreamed about, etc. But it should give you an idea that the Coast Guard Reserve is on the move into an assured future. You can be a part of this, by contributing your ideas, by absorbing our mission and making it your own commitment, by helping in recruiting, by letting people know that the Coast Guard Reserve merits consideration by veterans and the younger men of the country.

J. W. MOREAU

Rea / Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Chief, Office of Reserve





CGR Officers Sought for 1972 Military Competitions

The United States will host the 1972 Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR) military competition at Fort Meade in the Washington, D. C. area during the week of 7-13 August. This assembly of the NATO Reserve group will be one of the featured events of the U. S. ROA 50th Anniversary Observance. Some 300 competitors are expected from the USA, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Norway. Great Britain, Canada, and perhaps Luxembourg have also indicated an interest to field teams. The purpose of the military competition "is that they should be carried out between friends and with good sportsmanship, being a demonstration by a team of officers of their special abilities in the military field in an endurance contest."

The Department of Defense has invited the Coast Guard to furnish competitors for the U. S. teams to be selected approximately thirty days prior to the start of the competition. The United States will enter six teams composed of three competitors and one substitute picked from entrants from the Reserve officer corps of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and National Guard.

Coast Guard Reserve officers, both on active duty or not on active duty but in an active status, are encouraged to apply. Questionnaires and training guidelines will be furnished to applicants to screen and prepare those interested.

Reserve officers selected who are on active duty will be issued TAD orders and officers on inactive duty will be issued active duty for training orders to Washington, D. C. early in June for thirty days of specialized individual training. Early in July the team selections will be made. Those selected to teams will remain

for thirty days specialized team training prior to start of the competition.

The competitions are divided into three events as follows:

- Shooting Each team will fire a service pistol, rifle, and submachine gun selected by the host country.
- Obstacle run and utility swim. Each team will travel through twenty different obstacles on a 500 meter track during the obstacle run. The utility swim consists of five obstacles over a fifty meter distance.
- 3. Military orientation run Each team, aided by maps, compass, or other means shall travel through a series of characteristic on an approximate of the course.

 Cises such that a small waters, etc., may be expected. A rest is provided after completion of half the course.

Applicants should have good running endurance, physical coordination and strength, swimming ability, some experience with weapons and general out-door orienteering background. However, by early application and organization of training, it is felt that individual areas of lack of experience can be overcome. Applicants over thirty-five years of age may be considered for one U. S. team exclusively for this age group.

Letters of application shall be submitted to the Commandant (RT) via the chain of command for those on active duty

or participating in a Reserve unit, with a copy direct to Commandant (RT). Those officers on inactive duty and not affiliated with a Reserve unit should apply to Commandant (RT) via the appropriate district commander (r), with a copy direct to Commandant (RT). All applications shall be processed to be received by Commandant (RT) prior to 30 November 1971. Applications are strongly encouraged for those professing an interest in military pentathlon-type sports competition.

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All photographs are official Coast Guard material unless otherwise designated.

Members of the Coast Guard Reserve are invited to submit articles of interest to the Editor of RESERVIST for possible publication.

THINK COAST GUARD

Commandant U.S. Coast Guard Washington, D.C. 20590

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